

## State of the Sound Report – Briefing Memo Agenda Item #2

Prepared by: Jim Cahill

Approved by Director: DDD

Presented by: Jim Cahill, Martha Neuman, David St. John, and Scott Redman

---

### Background

One of the unique statutory charges to the Partnership is to assess and report on progress in restoring the Puget Sound ecosystem and tracking actions. The term Performance Management is used to describe and link ecosystem results, through strategies and actions. At the May, 2009 Leadership Council meeting, staff presented the Open Standards framework for performance management as the methodology for organizing and accounting for the actions in the Action Agenda. This methodology was favorably received by the Leadership Council. A briefing on interim products was provided at the July Leadership Council meeting.

At the September 2-3, 2009 Leadership Council meeting, staff will present a detailed briefing on the status of the overall performance management system being developed and the November 1, 2009 State of the Sound report. The staff goal is to familiarize and seek feedback from the Leadership Council with the work being produced, decisions needed, and the process for this fall.

### Meeting Outline

- A. Brief refresher on Open Standards methods, overall timeline to develop the Puget Sound Partnership's performance management system (including near-term products), and Partnership objectives in building the system
  - Use Open Standards for Conservation process
  - Set and use measurable outcomes
  - Document science used to inform actions
  - Achieve substantial buy-in for actions by Puget Sound stakeholders
- B. Walk through State of the Sound Outline and related technical memos (handout attached)
- C. Walk through State of the Sound process and timeline (see outline handout)
- D. Outline future decisions re setting benchmarks
- E. Walk through the performance management system concepts and timelines
- F. Decision for today: Selection of Ecosystem Indicators for 2009 (handout)

### Handouts

The pre-meeting handouts include:

- State of the Sound report outline
- 2009 Ecosystem Indicators decision materials